

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 IO-10

CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07

NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 W
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P 031315Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION US BERLIN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8166

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2589

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR EAIR GR TU GW

SUBJ: AEGEAN FIR PROBLEM AND BERLIN TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS

1. ON APRIL 1, EMBOFFS DISCUSSED SUBJECT SITUATION WITH DIMITRIS MACRIS, FONOFF TURKISH DESK OFFICER. IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THE FONOFF WAS NOT WELL INFORMED ON THE BERLIN SITUATION, PARTICULARLY ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: (A) DO COMMERCIAL AVIATION FLIGHTS NORMALLY GO ONLY FROM WEST BERLIN TO FRG OR DO SOME FLIGHTS NORMALLY GO DIRECTLY TO OTHER COUNTRIES? (B) WHAT AGREEMENTS EXIST GOVERNING AVIATION SERVICES TO WEST BERLIN? (C) HAVE PARENT COUNTRIES OF CONCERNED CHARTER AIRLINES PROTESTED TO BULGARIA AND IF NOT WHY NOT?

2. MACRIS DESCRIBED ICAO INITIATIVE TO SOLVE AEGEAN FIR PROBLEM, WHICH HE INDICATED WOULD INCLUDE BILATERAL
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GREEK-TURKISH ARRANGEMENT TO ESTABLISH SIMPLIFIED

PROCEDURES TO PERMIT TAF AIRCRAFT TO EXERCISE OVER
AEGEAN. HE NOTED THAT GOG INTENDED AGAIN TO REVIEW
MATTER WITH PRESIDENT OF ICAO COUNCIL, WHO HAD BEEN
TRYING FOR TWO MONTHS TO DISCUSS ICAO INITIATIVE WITH
GOT BUT WITHOUT YET RECEIVING ANY RESPONSE. MACRIS
AGAIN EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS OF GOG TO REOPEN AIR
CORRIDORS OVER AEGEAN AS SOON AS GOT SO DESIRED,
REQUIRING AIRCRAFT TO REPORT THEIR POSITIONS TO TURKISH
ATC AT POINTS PREVIOUSLY PRESCRIBED BY GOT IN NOTAM
714. BUT GOG COULD NOT TOLERATE TURKISH ATC EXERCISING
CONTROL OVER SUCH FLIGHTS WHEN THEY WERE STILL
WITHIN ATHENS FIR.

3. COMMENT: WHILE ANSWERS TO MAKRIS' QUESTIONS
(PARA 1 ABOVE) ARE PRESUMABLY AVAILABLE TO GOG THROUGH
THEIR EMBASSY IN BONN, WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER
INFORMATION EMBASSY BONN AND US MISSION BERLIN CAN PROVIDE
US ON THESE POINTS TO ASSIST OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO
NUDGE GOG IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AVIATION AGREEMENTS, BERLIN AIR ACCESS, AIR ROUTES, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS02589
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750115-0315
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750487/aaaadbcw.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AEGEAN FIR PROBLEM AND BERLIN TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS
TAGS: MARR, EAIR, GR, TU, GE
To: BONN BERLIN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006